

We claim:

1. A method for predicting the storage location of file comprising the steps of:
retrieving an identifier for the file for which predictive storage is desired;
comparing the retrieved identifier with a set of file storage locations in a storage

5 index;
determining whether there is a match between a retrieved identifier and a storage
location from the storage index; and

storing the file in the storage location matching the retrieved storage identifier.

10 2. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising before step 1 the step of
creating an initial storage index wherein each storage location entry in the index has a
predetermined identifier.

15 3. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said match
determination step, the steps of:

marking a storage entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

determining whether there are more storage entries in the index to compare with
the identifier of the file to be stored;

20 determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination
that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier;

determining whether there is more than one entry matching the file identifier,
when there is a determination that there are marked entries in the index; and

storing the file in the storage location with the matching identifier when there is
only one storage entry matching the file identifier.

4. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said match determination step, the steps of:

marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

5 determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file;

determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier;

determining whether there is more than one entry matching the file identifier, when there is a determination that there are marked entries in the index;

10 retrieving a next file identifier when there is determination of more than one marked entry in the index; and

returning to said comparison step.

5. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said match determination step, the steps of:

marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file;

retrieving a next file identifier and a next entry identifier for a marked entry; and

20 returning to said comparison step.

6. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said match determination step, the steps of:

marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the
5 identifier of the document;

determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination
that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier; and

creating a new storage location in which to store the file when there is a
determination that there are no entries matching the file identifier.

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7. The method as described in claim 6 further comprising the step of adding the
newly created storage location to the storage location index.

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8. The method as described in claim 2 wherein said wherein said match
determination step further comprises the step of determining whether there are more
entries in the index when there is a determination that there is not a match between the
file identifier and an entry in the index.

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9. The method as described in claim 8 further comprising the step of retrieving the
next entry from the index when there is a determination that there are more entries in the
storage location index and returning to said comparison step.

10. The method as described in claim 2 wherein said wherein said match determination step further comprises the steps of:

determining whether there are more entries in the index when there is a determination that there is not a match between the file identifier and an entry in the
5 index;

determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier;

determining whether there is more than one entry matching the file identifier, when there is a determination that there are marked entries in the index; and

10 storing the file in the storage location with the matching identifier when there is only one storage location entry matches the file identifier.

11. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said match determination step, the steps of:

15 marking a storage location entry that matches the file identifier;
determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file;
determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier; and
20 storing the file to a default storage location when there is a determination that there are no entries matching the file identifier.

12. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said match determination step, the steps of:

- marking a storage location entry that matches the file identifier;
- determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file;
- determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier; and
- retrieving a next file identifier and a next matching entry and returning to said comparison step, when there is a determination that there are no storage entry identifiers matching the file identifier.

13. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising before said identifier retrieval step, the step of receiving a store file request.

15 14. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising before said identifier retrieval step, the step of determining whether there is an activated user override and storing the file as designated by the user when there is a determination of an active user override.

20 15. The method as described in claim 2 wherein the storage location identifier is a string of words.

16. The method as described in claim 2 wherein the storage location identifier is a string of characters.

25 17. The method as described in claim 2 wherein the storage location identifier is one word.

18. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for performing predictive file storage of a file comprising:

instructions for retrieving an identifier for the file for which predictive file storage is desired;

5 instructions for comparing the retrieved identifier with a set of storage location entries in a storage index;

instructions for determining whether there is a match with a storage location identifier from the storage index; and

10 instructions for storing the file in the storage location matching the retrieved file identifier.

19. The computer program product as described in claim 18 further comprising before said identifier retrieval instructions, instructions for creating an initial storage location index wherein each entry in the index has a predetermined storage location identifier.

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20. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising after said match determination instructions:

instructions for marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

20 instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file;

instructions for determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier;

25 instructions for determining whether there is more than one storage entry matching the file identifier, when there is a determination that there are marked entries in the index; and

instructions for storing the file in the storage location with the matching identifier when there is only one storage entry identifier matching the file identifier.

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21. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising after said match determination instructions:

instructions for marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

5 instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file;

instructions for determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier;

10 instructions for determining whether there is more than one storage location matching the file identifier, when there is a determination that there are marked entries in the index;

instructions for retrieving a next file identifier to compare with the entries matching the previous file identifier; and

15 instructions for returning to said comparison instructions.

22. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising after said match determination instructions:

instructions for marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the document;

instructions for retrieving a next file identifier; and

instructions for returning to said comparison instructions.

23. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising after said match determination instructions:

instructions for marking an entry that matches the file identifier;

instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the document;

instructions for determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier; and

instructions for creating a new storage location in which to store the document when there is a determination that there are no entries matching the file identifier.

24. The computer program product as described in claim 23 further comprising instructions for adding the newly created storage location to the storage location index.

15 25. The method as described in claim 19 wherein said match determination instructions further comprising instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index when there is a determination that there is not a match between the file identifier and an entry in the index.

20 26. The computer program product as described in claim 25 further comprising instructions for retrieving the next storage location entry from the index when there is a determination that there are more entries in the storage location index and instructions for returning to said comparison instructions.

27. The computer program product as described in claim 19 wherein said match determination instructions further comprise:

instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index when there is a determination that there is not a match between the file identifier and an entry

5 in the index;

instructions for determining whether there are any marked entries when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier;

10 instructions for determining whether there is more than one folder matching the file identifier, when there is a determination that there are marked entries in the index; and

instructions for storing the file in identifier matching the file the matching storage location when there is only one storage location identifier.

15 28. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising after said match determination instructions:

instructions for marking an entry in the index that matches the file identifier;

instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file ;

20 instructions for determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier; and

instructions for storing the file to a default storage location when there is a determination that there are no entries matching the file identifier.

29. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising after said match determination instructions:

instructions for marking an entry having an identifier that matches the file identifier;

5 instructions for determining whether there are more entries in the index to compare with the identifier of the file ;

instructions for determining whether there are any marked entries, when there is a determination that there are no more entries in the index to compare with the file identifier; and

10 instructions for retrieving a next file identifier and returning to said comparison instructions, when there is a determination that there are no entries matching the file identifier.

30. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising before
15 said identifier retrieval instructions, instructions for receiving a store file request.

31. The computer program product as described in claim 19 further comprising before
said identifier retrieval instructions, instructions for determining whether there is an
activated user override and storing the file as designated by the user when there is a
20 determination of an active user override.